

April 28, 1981

LB 404, 522, 562

inappropriate. If there was a community alternative, there could be a cheaper alternative and a more fulfilling alternative for those individuals. So LB 404 does, I believe, in the long term reduce that cost while enhancing quality of life. It provides some additional resources, a mechanism for additional resources if the Legislature chooses to provide them to extend services to other parts of the state. For those reasons, those of us on the interim study committee felt that LB 404, either in its original form or now as scaled back by the Public Health and Welfare Committee, 404 is an important step for low cost services for the elderly of Nebraska. I would move that it be advanced.

SENATOR NICHOL: We are voting on the advancement of LB 404. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? We are voting on the advancement of LB 404. Record please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 11 nays on the motion to advance the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR NICHOL: The bill is advanced. We will next take up LB 522.

CLERK: Mr. President, if I may right before that, Senator Koch would like to print amendments to LB 562. (See page 1611.)

Your committee on Miscellaneous Subjects gives notice of public hearing for Thursday, May 7.

Mr. President, LB 522 was introduced by Senator Vard Johnson. (Read.) The bill was read on January 20, referred to Public Health and Welfare. The bill was referred to General File. There are committee amendments pending by the Public Health and Welfare Committee, Mr. President.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I am going to explain the committee amendments to LB 522. They are substantial amendments and I think substantially improve the bill as a result. I will go through them one by one. You can look on your committee statement again to find exactly what I am referring to but I will explain them in detail as I go through them. First off, we change the effective date of the proposal from July 1 of 1982 to July 1 of 1983. This is to allow for a greater deal of time to effectuate the change. What we are talking about with this legislation is going from a county welfare system in conjunction with the state to a total state system so that the counties no longer would have a joint role with the state. The state would take over that